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## A new locality for *Asplenium ebenoides*

CHARLES H. BISSELL

The so-called "Scott's Spleenwort" is so rare that its discovery in a new locality should be of general interest. So far as Connecticut is concerned it has been known only from the northwestern corner of the state. One plant was found in the town of Canaan by Mr. J. S. Adam, in 1876. This plant lived and flourished for about 15 years, but no other plants of the fern were found near it and this one at last disappeared.

In 1902, Mr. C. K. Averill found another plant in the same town but at a station several miles from the other. The species is, or was recently, known to grow in the town of Sheffield, Mass., only a few miles from the stations reported, so that the fern has been known in this general region for about 35 years.

At all the places named above, it was growing on shaded ledges of limestone and where both *Asplenium platyneuron* and *Camptosorus rhizophyllus* are also found.

Recently Mr. H. C. Bigelow has made a systematic search for this fern in central Connecticut and has been rewarded by the discovery of it in two localities in the town of Berlin, about 40 miles from the Canaan region. In and about Berlin are extensive ridges of trap rock running mostly in a direction from southwest to northeast and ordinarily with an elevation of several hundred feet. Paralleling these trap ridges are low outcrops of sandstone and shale, the strata of which are tilted, giving usually a northwestern exposure, and it was among these outcrops that the Scott's fern was found. In all Mr. Bigelow has discovered seven plants at these new stations. These grew in crevices of soft shale and about midway between the base and the top of the ledge. Both *Asplenium platyneuron* and *Camptosorus* are found on many of these shale ledges, and there were places where condi-

tions seemed ideal for hybridizing, some really much better, apparently, than those where the hybrid was actually found. In one instance it was some little distance from Scott's fern to where its supposed parents were growing. It does not seem here to be as nearly evergreen as either the ebony spleenwort or the walking leaf, the fronds in the spring being mostly withered.

There are many similar ledges in the surrounding country, and if they could be examined with as much care and with as clear an eye as Mr. Bigelow has used in his explorations I believe we should have reports of other places in Connecticut where Scott's fern is growing.

SOUTHINGTON, CT.

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### Notes and news

At the recent annual meeting of the Torrey Botanical Club Professor Edward S. Burgess was elected president, Dr. John Hendley Barnhart and Professor Herbert M. Richards vice-presidents, Mr. Bernard O. Dodge secretary and treasurer, and Dr. William Mansfield delegate to the Council of the New York Academy of Sciences. Professor R. A. Harper was elected associate editor in the place of Dr. Tracy E. Hazen, who declined reelection. The other associate editors and the editor were reelected. Among the names of new members elected at the meeting was that of Professor Lewis S. Hopkins, Secretary of the American Fern Society.

At the winter meeting of the American Association for the Advancement of Science Dr. Edward C. Pickering was elected president. Dr. Duncan S. Johnson, professor of botany at Johns Hopkins University, was elected vice-president of Section G (Botany).